REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested. Since this Amendment is being presented together with a Request for Continued Examination, entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 5 and 8 are amended and claims 11 and 12 are newly added. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3-5 and 7-8 and 11-12 will be pending in the patent application.

The Office Action indicates that the status of claims 9 and 10 added in the preliminary amendment filed May 28, 2002 is not mentioned. The Office Action further indicates that these claims are considered cancelled. Applicants note that claims 9 and 10 have been mistakenly omitted in the Amendment filed on February 16, 2006. As the Office Action has considered these claims cancelled, Applicants have identified claims 9 and 10 in this Amendment with the identifier "Cancelled". In addition, Applicants submit new claims 11 and 12, which recite similar features to claims 9 and 10, respectively.

The Office Action indicates that no certified copy of the priority document has been filed. A certified copy of the priority document will be filed in due course.

The specification was objected to in the Office Action. In connection with this objection, the Office Action indicates that the "lines are crowded too closely together and the text is too small, making it difficult to read." While Applicants do not believe that a new text of the specification is needed since the publication of this patent application (US 2003/0118005) provides a clear copy of the original text of the application, Applicants submit herewith a substitute specification for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants have taken the liberty to correct idiomatic and grammatical errors in this substitute specification. For example, this substitute specification includes the corrections made to the specification in Applicants' Amendment filed on February 16, 2006. In this substitute specification, the term "posts" has been amended to "entries". "Post" is a mistranslation of the Swedish word "post", meaning entry, record or item. As the application was originally filed in Swedish, Applicants rely on the disclosure of the originally filed application to support correction of this error. No new matter has been added. A substitute specification in compliance with 37 CFR 1.125(b) and (c) is attached herewith. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In connection with this rejection, the Office Action indicates that the term "ordre public" is unclear. In response, claims 1 and 5 are amended to delete this term. The term "ordre public" has been replaced with the language "whereby registered websites are approved after examination within stated criteria for said top level domain." No new matter has been added. Basis for this amendment can be found, for example, in page 4, lines 4-5 of the present patent application.

The Office Action also indicates that the term "post" is unclear. In response, the term "posts" has been amended to "entries." As mentioned previously, the term "post" is a mistranslation of the Swedish word "post," meaning entry, record or item. As the application was originally filed in Swedish, Applicants rely on the disclosure of the originally filed application to support correction of this error.

Finally, the Action indicates that the term "micro debiting" is unclear. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the term "micro debiting" is equivalent to "micropayment," which is a well known term referring to the transfer of small amounts of money (such as a tenth of a cent) over the Internet. For a definition of micropayment, see, e.g., Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Micropayment). Applicants further submit a copy of the article "PayWord and MicroMint: Two simple micropayment schemes" by R Rivest and A Shamir as proof that the term micropayment would have been well known to the skilled person at the time the present application was filed. This article was published in 1997 in the proceedings from the Security Protocols Workshop (Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 1189 Springer 1997, pages 69-87, ISBN 3-540-62494-5). (See Exhibit 1). As the widely accepted meaning of the word "debiting" is to charge someone with a payment, it would be clear to one of ordinary skill in the art that the term "micro debiting" refers to "micropayment." An excerpt from Merriam-Webster's online dictionary is enclosed, providing the definition of "debiting." (See Exhibit 2).

The language "micro debiting the top level domain" has been amended to "micro debiting a user of the top level domain." It is clear from the disclosure of the present patent application that it is the user who is being debited (see, e.g., page 5, lines 16-20 of the present patent application, "micro debiting when connected to the top level domain," and page 5, line 25 – page 6, line 10 describing a user logging in and then being debited). The language "accumulating said micro debiting during every session a user is connected to said domain through a debiting server" has been amended to "accumulating, through a debiting server,

said micro debiting during every session a user is connected to said domain." This amendment is intended to clarify that the debiting server is responsible for accumulating the payments. (*See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 9-10 of the present patent application).

With respect to the objection to the term "percentage partition", Applicants respectfully submit that this term is known in the art and simply means that there is a partition by percentage.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-5 and 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Gardos *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,880,007) in view of Peled *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0016831) (hereinafter "Peled") and Sheth *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,874,030) (hereinafter "Sheth"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

MPEP 2142 states: "to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Gardos, Peled and Sheth fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Claim 1 recites an arrangement for blocking unwanted network traffic in open data and telecommunication networks, comprising, *inter alia*, "a first level of blocking unwanted communications, said first level of blocking being in the form of a top level domain requiring registration for websites residing within the top level domain, whereby registered websites are approved after examination within stated criteria for said top level domain, ... database means connected to the top level domain server for registering and approving of a service provider residing within the top level domain; ... a second level of blocking providing micro debiting through a debiting server during connection to the top level domain, the second level of blocking including means for debiting of the top level domain via micro debiting and means for accumulating said micro debiting during every session a user is connected to said domain; and a switch for use with the second level of blocking, the switch being adapted to be turned on and off based on debit-free time periods; wherein registration of those connected to the top level domain and the identification of a calling party prevents a free connection and anonymity in computer networks through said top level domain server so as to obtain a top level domain purged from unwanted network traffic."

The features recited in claim 1 provide a top-level domain purged from unwanted content, as well as an efficient and flexible way to charge the user for access to web sites within the domain.

The Office Action asserts at page 5, bullet 1, that Gardos teaches a first level of blocking in the form of a top level domain requiring registration for web sites. This is acknowledged, as each web site obviously needs to be registered in some way with the top level domain. However, unlike claim 1, Gardos does not disclose, teach or suggest a top level domain requiring registration for web sites, whereby registered websites are approved after examination within stated criteria for said top level domain. The stated criteria could concern any subject that is not desired in the TLD, such as pornography, morality, or terrorism (*see, e.g.*, page 1, lines 6-12 of the present patent application).

Applicants respectfully submit that Gardos merely teaches a program and method for domain management, *i.e.*, for handling the name, contact information and debiting for the owner ("Registrant") of a domain name. There is absolutely nothing in Gardos that remotely discloses, teaches or suggests purging a TLD from unwanted information. Thus, the skilled person would find no indication in Gardos that the websites could be examined according to stated criteria.

The Office Action also asserts at page 5, bullet 3, that Peled teaches a database for registration and approval of a service provider, and refers to Figure 2 of Peled. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the purpose of the database in Peled is to register the physical location of an ISP (*see, e.g.*, paragraph 194 of Peled), to enable locating of online content. However, Peled does not show a database for registering *approval* of a service provider, as required in claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest using micropayments, much less using a switch providing debit-free time periods. The Office Action asserts that Gardos teaches billing of the user based on usage of service (Fig 7 of Gardos). Respectfully, this appears to be a misunderstanding. Gardos merely teaches billing of the Registrant, *i.e.*, the owner of the domain name (*see, e.g.*, col. 2, lines 19-22 of Gardos). In other words, the person or company who registers a domain will be charged for maintaining the rights to the domain name. Billing of the user of a web site is not shown in Gardos. Note that the term "user" as it appears in Gardos clearly refers to the user of the domain management system, not the user of a web site within the domain.

Applicants respectfully submit that it would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to extend the billing of the domain registrant, as shown in Gardos, to micro debiting of

the user of a web page. This is because it would make no logical sense to use micropayments in connection with paying for the subscription to a domain name. Such charges would normally be billed on a monthly or yearly basis. In particular, there is no indication in Gardos to provide a switch adapted to be turned on and off based on debit-free time periods, as this is not an issue that would ever arise in connection with a subscription to a domain name.

In conclusion, Gardos, Pelled, Sheth and a combination thereof do not disclose, teach or suggest (1) approval of registered websites after examination according to stated criteria, (2) a database for registration and approval of a service provider, (3) a second level of blocking providing micro debiting through a debiting server and (4) a switch for use with the second level of blocking, adapted to be turned on and off based on debit-free time periods. Therefore, any combination of Gardos, Pelled, Sheth cannot result, in any way, in the invention of claim 1.

It is also respectfully submitted that there is no motivation or suggestion to combine the cited references. Gardos, Pelled, Sheth relate to different fields of technology. While Gardos involves a system for domain management, Peled deals with locating online content using an IP address mapped to physical location data, and Sheth relates to static selection of tunnel-based network connections (*see, e.g.,* col. 1, lines 25-30 of Sheth). It is respectfully submitted that a skilled person in the field of domain management, seeking to purge a TLD from unwanted traffic, would have no incentive to look for solutions in a patent relating to locating online content. Neither would the skilled person be inclined to use a document describing tunnel-based network connections to look for solutions as to how to authenticate a user logging in to a top-level domain.

In addition, and as mentioned previously, even if it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Gardos, Sheth and Peled, such a combination would not provide the arrangement of claim 1. Rather, the combination of Gardos, Sheth and Peled would merely result in a system for managing domain information, where registered web sites could be mapped to a physical location and where the Registrant (owner of the domain) could be authenticated during login to the domain management system.

Thus, the combination of Gardos, Sheth and Peled fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Claims 3 and 4 are patentable over Gardos, Sheth, Peled and a combination thereof at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein. Claim 5 is patentable over Gardos, Sheth, Peled and a combination thereof for at

least similar reasons as provided above for claim 1 and for the features recited therein. Claims 7-8 are patentable over Gardos, Sheth, Peled and a combination thereof at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 5 and for the additional features recited therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-5 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Gardos in view of Peled and Sheth are respectfully requested.

Claims 11 and 12 are newly added to define additional subject matter that is novel and non-obvious of the art of record. Claims 11 and 12 are patentable over the art of record at least by virtue of their dependency from claims 1 and 5, respectively, and for the additional features recited therein.

The rejections having been addressed, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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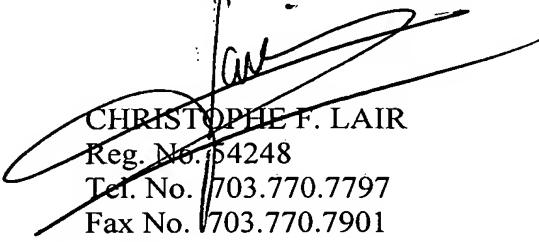
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Attachments: Merriam-Webster Online
Rivest et al. Article
Substitute Specification